

## Public Notice – Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the installation of a surface water intake and the continued operation of a water withdrawal from Knox Creek in **Buchanan County**, Virginia.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: **May 19, 2016** to **June 20, 2016** at 5:00 p.m.

**PERMIT NAME:** Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

**APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER:** Clintwood Elkhorn Mining LLC; P. O. Box 196, Hurley, VA 24620; VWPP No. 15-1432

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Clintwood Elkhorn Mining LLC has applied for a permit for operation of a surface water withdrawal from Knox Creek, a tributary of the Tug Fork River. The project will allow the installation of a new surface water intake and continuation of surface water withdrawals to support operation of a coal preparation plant that currently processes coal from two surface mines and a number of underground mines. The draft permit limits total withdrawals from the intake to an instantaneous maximum of 300 gallons per minute, a daily maximum volume of 0.156 million gallons and an annual maximum volume of 40.52 million gallons. The activity proposed in the permit will affect Knox Creek within the Tug Fork watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. DEQ's preliminary decision is to issue the permit.

**HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING:** DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

**CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Brian McGurk; VA Dept. of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218; Phone: 804-698-4180; E-mail: [Brian.McGurk@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Brian.McGurk@deq.virginia.gov); The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed below.